

Poster Abstract: 40

A Comparative Study of Left Atrial Diameter in Patients with Atrial Fibrillation with Known and Unknown Etiology

Hosseinian A, MD, Nassiri NE, Alizadeh F, Maleki A

Ardabil University of Medical Sciences, Ardabil, Iran

Introduction: Cardiovascular disease is one of the most common diseases in the world today occurring predominantly in old age. One important group of these diseases is cardiac arrhythmias. The most common chronic cardiac arrhythmia in the general population is atrial fibrillation (AF). AF rhythm may be induced by multiple causes, but in some cases no cause can be detected.

Objectives: To compare the left atrial diameter in patients with AF rhythm with known (group 1) and unknown (group 2) etiology.

Materials & Methods: This study was done in prospective and descriptive-analytic and cross-sectional manner. All of the patients with AF rhythm who entered the study were evaluated from an etiologic aspect by taking history, serial

electrocardiograms (ECG), echocardiography and checking serum thyroid hormone levels. The collected data were inserted in special forms and then analyzed by statistical methods using SPSS.

Results: In total, 135 patients with AF rhythm were studied. 51.1% of patients were females and 48.9% were males. The mean age of cases was 65 years and 63.3% of patients were over 60 years. In this study, the most common causes of AF rhythm were ischemic heart disease, hypertension, valvular heart disease, hyperthyroidism. 13.3% of cases had AF with unknown etiology (lone AF). The mean left atrial diameter in all of the patients was 4.09 cm, while it was 4.1 cm and 3.7 cm in patients of group 1 and group 2, respectively.

Conclusions: The prevalence of AF rhythm bore no relation with gender in this study. 13.3% of cases had lone AF. The prevalence of AF had a strong relation with the increase in age. The mean left atrial diameter in patients with AF with known etiology was higher than in patients with lone AF, but the difference was not statistically significant.